

North Dakota Senate

STATE CAPITOL
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Legislative Assembly

Senator Richard Marcellais

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COMMITTEES:

Finance and Taxation
Agriculture and Veterans Affairs

Chairman Vigessa, members of the House Appropriations Committee for the record my name is Richard Marcellais, North Dakota State Senator in District 9.

Today I am here to testify in favor of HB 1199, relating to Missing & Murdered Indigenous People.

On behalf of all the Missing & Murdered Indigenous People, it's with retreat that I speak to your on this very important topic today. I could talk about the Savanna's Act that was passed by the Federal Government, but it would not bring back the missing or murdered love ones.

"The Missing & Murdered Indigenous peoples crisis is centuries in the making and will take a focused effort and time to unravel the many treads that contributed to the alarming rates of these cases. But I believe now is the time to correct this problem. We have a Governor and legislator that is prioritizing this. And we can't turn back now. Today I present the following individuals missing & murdered:

Ms. Jayden Rose Marcellais age 27 on November 11, 2020 in Minot, ND.

Mr. Petite Belgrade age 38 on September 8th 2010 in Belcourt, ND.

Ms. Stella Trottier Gaves, age 40 on September 17, 2010 in Belcourt, ND.

Ms. Monica Berliner Wickre, age 42 or 43 on June 16, 1993 in Aberdeen, SD.

Mr. Glenn Longie, missing since 2020.

What I am going to speak on is what we need to do in the future in the State of North Dakota. All five (5) Tribal Nation along with the North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission Office needs to develop plans to protect our Indigenous People.

These plans would include:

- Combating human trafficking in Indian Country;
- Call for permanent federal, state tribal law enforcement in Indian Country;
- Create an Amber Alert System in Indian Country;
- Protect Native American women from violence;

- Introduce legislation to develop a problem solving task force with funding;
- Keep communities strong and safe

These plans should be incorporated in the five (5) Tribal Nations educational systems so our students learn at a young age. I am will to assist with developing these plans along with the North Dakota five (5) Tribal Nations.

On some reservations, Native women are murdered at ten times the national average, and 84% of Native women have experienced violence in their lifetime. In 2016, North Dakota had 125 reported cases of missing Native women according to the National Crime Information Center, but numbers are likely much higher as cases are often under reported and data isn't officially collected.

It's time to give a voice to these voiceless Indigenous People that matter. It's time to bring their perpetrators to justice and give a voice to the families who are struggling even today, sometimes decades later.

As a proud Native American Vietnam Veteran this reminds me of our Veterans killed in and missing in action during the war where either their bodies were not found or who knows who killed them, maybe that's why former U.S. Senator John McCain former prisoner of war god bless his soul helped introduce and got signed into law to expand Amber alert warnings in Indian Country.

I also have a video from the August 17, 2021, Tribal/State Relations meeting at the Turtle Mountain Community College where family members testified on their Missing & Murdered family members. It's approximately 30 minutes long if your interested in viewing the testimony.

"Yes we can make a difference for our Indigenous People" Thank you very much and God Bless all of you.

Chairman Vegessa members of the House Appropriations Committee I ask for your positive vote on HB 1199. I will try an answer any questions you may have.

Elick Funeral Home

Jayden Rose Marcellais

(June 07, 1993 - November 11, 2020)

Jayden Rose Marcellais, age 27, of Belcourt, ND passed away on Wednesday, November 11, 2020 in Minot, ND. Wiigigabawitow Migiz Ikwe, "Stands with Eagle Woman"



Jayden Rose Marcellais was born on June 7, 1993 in Grand Forks, ND to Kevin Keplin and Angel (Marcellais) Gladue.

Jayden was raised in Fargo, ND, until the 5th grade. She then moved to Belcourt where she attended middle and high school. She graduated from Turtle Mountain Community High School in 2011, where she participated in volleyball and basketball. Jayden furthered her education at Turtle Mountain Community College, where she earned a 9-month phlebotomy certificate.

Jayden was very outgoing and enjoyed spending time with her friends. Her laugh and smile were infectious because Jayden had the best sense of humor. Her family and friends lovingly remember her for her "blonde moments" and her favorite meal of noodles and soy sauce. Jayden worked jobs at N8's, The Viking, and Buffalo Wild Wings. She was the loving mother of two wonderful boys, Elijah Knox (8) and Matthew Roman (5). Jayden's boys were the light of her life and they will miss her dearly. She took pride in her appearance and she always made sure her makeup was perfect. Jayden enjoyed being on her phone and her computer. She also collected items representing her favorite basketball team, the Chicago Bulls. Jayden spent a lot of time with her brothers, Dylan and Calvin.

Jayden is survived by her sons, Elijah and Matthew; her parents Angel and Travis Gladue and Kevin and Kelly Keplin; brothers, Dylan Gladue, Calvin Gladue, Kolton Keplin, and Kooper Keplin; sisters, Kwade and Kobi Keplin; grandparents, Roman and Theresa Marcellais, Lena Enno, Howard and Bernie Davis, Jeannie Poitra, and Gary Gladue; uncles, RT (Sherry) Marcellais, Lucas (Rhawnie) Marcellais, Kyle (Cindy) Keplin, Riel DeCoteau, Riley DeCoteau, and Kory Gladue; aunts, Jessica (Dustin) Zaste, Kimberly Keplin, and Ashtynn Gladue; Godparents, Jessica Zaste and Kyle Keplin, and Ruth Carrington and Jon Jon Keplin; and many special cousins.

Jayden was preceded in death by her great maternal grandparents, Frank and Emma (LaFountain) Enno and Joseph "Zeke" and Clara (Champagne) Marcellais, great paternal grandparents, George and Eva (Laverdure) Jeanotte and Louis and Katherine (Delorme) Keplin, and paternal grandfather, Melvin Keplin.



Casket Bearers are Joshua Keplin, Trentten Keplin, Ryder Keplin, William Marcellais, Jordan Marcellais, and Kolton Keplin. Honorary Bearers are all family and friends including, Shanyce Zerr, Kira Champagne, Jotannah Morin, Stephanie Hunt, Amanda Hall, Drew Parisien, Gerianne Brunelle, Bryce Monette, Shodiah LaVallie, Bailey Carrington, Taylor Marcellais, Summer Marcellais, Marc Marcellais, Clarissa Morin, and Andrew Charbonneau. Music by Chad Marcellais. Pall placed by Kolton, Kwade, Kobi, Dylan, Calvin, and Kooper.

A visitation will be from 1:00 to 3:00 PM on Friday, November 20, 2020 at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, St. John, ND with a Funeral Mass at 3:00 PM. Father Richard Fineo presiding. Burial will follow funeral services at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Belcourt, ND.

Elick Funeral Home, Rolla, ND.



"Petie"
Carl Peter Belgarde

Carl Peter "Petie" Belgarde the son of Beverly Gourneau and Mort Belgarde was born on Sept. 1, 1972 in Belcourt. He went home Wed. Sept 8, 2010 in Belcourt at the age of 38.

Petie grew up in Belcourt ND graduated TMCHS in 1992. He worked at Jollies in the bakery while in Belcourt, ND. He moved to grand Forks, ND where He was Food and Beverage/ Catering Manager at the West Ward Ho. He then moved to Fargo to be Catering Manager at Radisson in Fargo, ND. He was recertified CNA and was furthering his education in Belcourt to become a Radiologist.

He loved spending time with friends and family. He loved camping and spent alot of time with his special friend Robert. He also loved da kats. He has three of his own but when not with them he foster parented for PAWS. Petie loved taking pictures and couldn't wait to have them developed so he could surround Himself with those memories. Peties love for life was contagiés and his infectious laugh would quickly fill a room.

Petie was always willing to help you, no matter what the project was he always gave his best. He was always there for his friends and family and will be missed immensely.

Survivors include: His Mother Beverly Gourneau, sister Lori Morin, special friend Robert Coons, 2 Nieces, RaeAnn (Brandon Davis) Morin and Jordan Thomas 2 nephews, Isaiah Thomas and Trevor Morin 2 great nephews Brandon Davis Jr and Desmond Joel Davis, close cousins Susie (Adam) Belgarde, Jonie (Russell) Barton, of Fargo ND Lenny (Jerelyn) Belgarde, of Rolette ND, Daryl Belgarde of Belcourt and Tina Rosenthal of Fargo ND.

Petie was preceded in death by his Father Mort Belgarde His Grandparents Joseph (Mary) Belgarde, Gilbert (Florence) Gourneau

*Until we meet again, may God
Hold you in the palm of his hand.*



In Loving Memory
of

"Petie"
Carl Peter Belgarde

September 1, 1972
September 8, 2010

Stella Marie Trottier-Graves

Stella Marie Trottier-Graves was born March 14, 1970 in Belcourt, ND to Joseph 'Buzzy' and Pauline (Desjarlais) Trottier. She attended Turtle Mountain Community Schools and graduated from the Turtle Mountain Community High School in May of 1988.

She attended Bismarck Junior College, MSU-Bottineau, and Minot State University. While attending school and living in Minot, she met and married Kenneth Graves July 17, 1994 and had two daughters and one son during their marriage; Rayanna(12), Leigha (8), and Kaden(4). While married to Ken, Stella lived in Florida, Germany, Japan, and Arizona. Stella moved back to Belcourt in July of 2009 and attended Turtle Mountain Community College.

Stella loved being a mother and her children were her biggest joy. She loved to listen to her daughter, Rayanna, play piano; watching Leigha play dress up and laughing at her zest for life; and see her only son discover and explore his surroundings.

Stella enjoyed being with her family and many friends; especially visiting with her brothers and listening to their music. Stella loved to laugh, tease, and be surrounded by people who loved her.

Stella is preceded in death by her father Joseph 'Buzzy' Trottier.

Stella is survived by her mother Pauline(Desjarlais) Trottier, and her five brothers; Bryne(Cheryl)Trottier, Williston, ND; Richard 'Blue Eyes' (Annette) Trottier, Williston, ND; Eugene (Roxanne) Trottier, Belcourt, ND; Joseph 'Joe' (Marla) Trottier, Dunsieith, ND; and Leslie (Jen)Trottier, Williston, ND.

Stella left behind her companion, Clark Fox, who loved her and enriched her life.

Stella will always be remembered and deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

*Until we meet again, may God
Hold you in the palm of his hand.*

In Loving Memory of



Stella Marie Trottier-Graves

March 14, 1970

September 17, 2010

12th March 2016 The Unsolved Murder of Monica Bercier-Wickre Missing then found Deceased in South Dakota, 1993.

Who is Monica "Mona" Bercier-Wickre:



[<https://4.bp.blogspot.com/-ieQ42ZjliCc/VuQSqF0dF->

[/IAAAAAAAAAA7w/1q_JU4Nsw8QsqsgmXQdbUVgMAqW_hRoA/s1600/12814474_10156610504835258_159264640772382968_n.jpg](https://4.bp.blogspot.com/-ieQ42ZjliCc/VuQSqF0dF-IAAAAAAAAAA7w/1q_JU4Nsw8QsqsgmXQdbUVgMAqW_hRoA/s1600/12814474_10156610504835258_159264640772382968_n.jpg) pg]

Monica was 42 or 43 years old when she disappeared from Aberdeen, South Dakota on April 7th, 1993. Her husband did not report her missing until April 22nd, 1993. Her remains were later discovered in the James River outside of Aberdeen on June 16th of that year. In 2000, Aberdeen police reported that they had a suspect but not enough evidence to charge that person. The suspect has never been publicly identified.

There is limited information available on the internet regarding the circumstances of Monica's death. Her case remains unsolved.

If you have any information regarding the disappearance or murder of Monica Bercier-Wickre, you are encouraged to contact the Brown County Sheriff's Office at 605-626-7100.

DOB: Unknown

Tribal Information: Monica is described as Native American and as having grown up on the Turtle Mountain Indian Reservation in North Dakota. Turtle Mountain are an Ojibwe tribe.

Sources:

[Cold Case Revisited \[http://www.officialcoldcaseinvestigations.com/showthread.php?7574-Cold-Case-Revisited-1993-SD\]](http://www.officialcoldcaseinvestigations.com/showthread.php?7574-Cold-Case-Revisited-1993-SD)

[Justice 4 Mona \[https://www.facebook.com/groups/1985466098345229/\]](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1985466098345229/)

Posted 12th March 2016 by Mak

Labels: 1993, Monica Bercier-Wickre, murdered women, Ojibwe, south dakota, Turtle Mountain, usa

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